Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-28 (canceled)

Claim 29 (currently amended): A portable data recording and playback device integrated into a headband, comprising:

a microphone attached to the headband for capturing sound signals;

a data memory for storing the captured sound signals;

a speech recognition unit for accessing the data memory and operable to recognize voice commands contained in the sound signals; ~~and~~

an MP3 player connected to the headband, the MP3 player including adjustable settings for volume, tone, and playing music titles; and

a control unit for controlling ~~the device~~at least one of the settings of the MP3 player based on the recognized voice commands.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The device of claim 29, further including a data interface for exchanging audio data with an external device.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The device of claim 30, wherein the audio data is provided in MP3 format.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The device of claim 30, wherein the data exchange is wireless.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The device of claim 30, wherein the data interface is used to load audio data onto the recording and playback device.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The device of claim 29, wherein the recording and playback device is used for playback of MP3 data.

Claim 35 (currently amended): The device of claim ~~34~~29, ~~further including an~~wherein the MP3 player is connected to the headband by a cord.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The device of claim 35, wherein a data medium with stored MP3 data is received in the MP3 player.

Claim 37 (previously presented): The device of claim 36, wherein the data medium is a flash memory card.

Claim 38 (previously presented): The device of claim 36, wherein the recording and playback device includes a decoding unit operably connected to the control unit for converting the MP3 data to audio signals for output on the headband.

Claim 39 (previously presented): The device of claim 38, wherein the headband includes a speaker amplifier and speakers for playing back the audio signals.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The device of claim 29, further including a program memory operably connected with the speech recognition unit, the program memory containing a control program for operating the speech recognition unit.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The device of claim 40, wherein the control program operates the speech recognition unit to identify keywords in the sound signals.

Claim 42 (previously presented): The device of claim 29, wherein the headband includes at least one key for activating functions of the speech recognition unit.

Claim 43 (previously presented): The device of claim 29, further including at least one data output device contained in the headband.

Claim 44 (previously presented): The device of claim 43, wherein the data output device includes at least one electro-acoustic transducer for outputting audio data.

Claim 45 (previously presented): The device of claim 43, wherein the data output device includes at least one speaker for outputting audio data.

Claim 46 (previously presented): The device of claim 29, further including an electrical supply unit contained in the headband.

Claim 47 (previously presented): The device of claim 46, wherein the electrical supply unit is configured to hold at least one battery.

Claim 48 (previously presented): The device of claim 29, further including operating controls contained in the headband.

Claim 49 (currently amended): A portable data recording and playback device integrated into a headband, comprising:

a data output device for outputting audio data;

a microphone attached to the headband for capturing sound signals;

a data memory for storing the captured sound signals;

a speech recognition unit for accessing the data memory and operable to recognize voice commands contained in the sound signals; ~~and~~

an MP3 player connected to the headband, the MP3 player including adjustable settings for volume, tone, and playing music titles; and

a control unit for controlling ~~the device~~at least one of the settings of the MP3 player according to the recognized voice commands.

Claim 50 (previously presented): The device of claim 49, wherein the data output device includes at least one electro-acoustic transducer for outputting audio data.

Claim 51 (previously presented): The device of claim 49, wherein the data output device includes at least one speaker for outputting audio data.

Claim 52 (previously presented): The device of claim 49, further including a program memory operably connected with the speech recognition unit, the program memory containing a control program for operating the speech recognition unit.

Claim 53 (previously presented): The device of claim 52, wherein the control program operates the speech recognition unit to identify keywords in the sound signals.

Claim 54 (previously presented): The device of claim 49, wherein the headband includes at least one key for activating functions of the speech recognition unit.